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AND STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

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Agricultural.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE STATE FAIR.

The Business Committee of the State Agricultural Society had a meeting at Jackson recently, and afterwards paid a visit of inspection to the grounds. Here they found a number of changes had been made, all looking towards better and more ample accommodations for live stock exhibits, and the improvement of the buildings generally. The work is being done under the auspices of the Jackson County Agricultural Society, according to an agreement made with them last winter.

Jackson County has appropriated \$1,500 for the fitting up of the grounds and buildings, and of this the County Society is using \$1,100 in rebuilding the stalls and sheds and fences destroyed by fire, while they have passed \$400 over to the State Society to be used in making such repairs as are needed in the exhibition buildings, and getting them ready for the Fair.

We visited the grounds on Tuesday last, in company with Hon. John C. Sharp, who had charge of the work, and the work of preparation is being pushed ahead rapidly. The old line of fence on the north side has been all torn down and a new one put up. Along this are 500 feet of new cattle stalls, made large and roomy, with tight slatted roofs, the eaves projecting well forward to shade from sun or carry off the water in case of rain. Then all the old stalls are being refitted in the same manner. Every third stall is a bull stall, and all are well built and rain proof. In all there will be accommodations for over 600 head of cattle, which ought to furnish every one with good quarters. The horse stalls are also being put into shape, and a few new ones built. The accommodations for horses and cattle will be more ample, and the stalls better built and arranged than any the Society has ever had. The arrangements for water will also be found very convenient. A new hay barn has also been erected, and that very troublesome matter, the supply of hay and straw, will be arranged so as to make it as convenient as possible to exhibitors. It is evident the people interested in the Jackson grounds are anxious to make the coming fair a successful one, and are going to have everything in fine shape and in ample time.

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THE DRESSED BEEF MONOPOLY.

In the *Breeders' Gazette* of this week appears a communication from Judge T. C. Jones, of Delaware, Ohio, on this subject, which seems to place the question discussed in its proper light in relation to the live stock interests of the various States. It is substantially the ground taken up by the FARMER, and we are pleased to see such a conservative and clear-headed man as Judge Jones endorse the position assumed as correct. The Judge says:

"In your observations on the dressed-meat industry, appearing in a recent issue, I was somewhat surprised to see that you did not notice its influence upon the local cattle market in the country towns. The great majority of our farmers, you know, seldom ship cattle, sheep or swine to distant markets. They depend upon local purchasers, and as respects cattle they rely largely upon the butchers of the neighboring towns. Dry cows, though frequently furnishing beef of excellent quality, are not wanted for shipping. If the local butchers are to be forced to handle the dressed meat sent from a few large slaughtering establishments or retire from the business, it is obvious that the demand for the 'butchers' stock' in the country must be cut off, to the serious loss of the farmers who have this stock for sale. Already we hear complaints of this result in various quarters in Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania.

THE FRUIT-GROWERS' MEETING AT BENTON HARBOR.

The joint meeting of the West Michigan Fruit-Growers' Society and the State Horticultural Society, of which a notice appeared in a recent number of the FARMER, convened in Grange Hall, in Benton Harbor, on the evening of June 13th. There had been some efforts made, and some inducements held out by the State Society, for a conference with the fruit-growers' of the Lake Shore Society. Early in the year President Phillips was invited to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Society held at Grand Rapids last winter, but very properly declined when he found none of the other officers of his Society had been notified of the meeting. Neither the chairman of the executive committee nor the secretary knew of the meeting, until it was announced through the Grand Rapids papers, and copied all over the State, that such a meeting had actually been held, and that the State had been formed out of the three interests of horticulture, pomology, and landscape gardening. How much of this was intended for real business, and how much mere rhetorical effectiveness is not generally known. It is certain that the West Michigan fruit-growers had no voice in such a division of labor. They had thought that their interests were but served by a continuation of their organization as it then existed. A very large percentage of the area of the State devoted to fruit growing is included within the scope of territory covered by this Society; and any transportation arrangements made, very generally affected the whole membership. The charge that this is sectional is admitted, but causes which are plainly enough understood without repeating, make it so. It was very generally believed by members of the West Michigan Society, that some proposition looking to a closer union with the State Society would be submitted to them at this meeting; but no such measure was presented or considered.

The first meeting was a joint one and the welcoming address by Col. Ward was a pleasant greeting for both societies. The responses were from members from each. At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the West Michigan Society, the MICHIGAN FARMER was adopted as the mouthpiece for all of its reports, and Secretary LaFleur was instructed to forward all reports and papers to it for publication. Such reports will soon appear in the horticultural column of this paper, and is my excuse for reporting none of the regular proceedings of the meeting.

President Lyon and Treasurer Pearsall were present at the meeting, also E. H. Scott, of Ann Arbor, and E. C. Reid, of Allegan, as members of the Executive Committee of the State Society. At a meeting to consider some important business, E. C. Reid, of Allegan, was appointed as Secretary, to fill the position of C. W. Garfield, resigned. W. A. Brown, of Benton Harbor, succeeds Mr. Reid as a member of the Executive Committee. What plans are being formulated for publishing the State Reports are not advised about. Mr. Reid is in every way qualified to supervise, compile and publish the yearly volume, but whether it will be forthcoming time will determine. The revenue of the State Society has always been increased somewhat through the distribution of these public reports. The State law makes the State Horticultural Society the medium for the distribution of a portion of the reports, giving fruit growers the preference. The West Michigan Society has had some cause for complaint about this distribution. They have offered to furnish matter for publication in the reports, and have only asked volumes in sufficient quantity to supply its membership, but the ultimatum of becoming tributary to the State Society, and paying fifty cents per member, which is the whole fee required for a yearly membership, has prevented the West Michigan from receiving a single copy, except as the members procured them from some other source.

The report of a committee, appointed at a previous meeting, through its chairman, J. C. Gould, of Paw Paw, whose duty was to present the claims of the society for a proper share of the reports, made a little ripple of excitement on the last day of the meeting. But H. C. Sherwood, of the West Michigan, who was then presiding, succeeded in reducing the friction, which tended toward a fracture, and the joint meeting closed with evidences of good feeling all round. The December meeting will be at Fennville, in Allegan Co., in the heart of the peach district of that county, and some interesting matters will come before the meeting. Benton Harbor and St. Joseph--a mile apart, are the shipping points for a large territory given over almost exclusively to growing fruit for the Chicago and other western markets. The daily boat, which leaves at 9 P. M. in the fruit season, is loaded to its utmost capacity. No less than 14,000 packages of fruit, mostly berries, have been carried at one trip. Peach growing succumbed to the yellows disease twelve or fifteen years ago, but the young peach trees now growing are entirely free from the malady, and are set with all the fruit they can bear. At Benton Harbor is a large canning establishment which uses up tomatoes by the acre in its season. Another enterprise is the growing of melons for Chicago market. They grow but one variety generally--the Osage. This has

only a local reputation. It is dark green slightly netted with salmon colored flesh, oblong, egg-shaped, and gives the best satisfaction of anything they have experimented with. R. Morrill is the most extensive grower; had just finished setting 50 acres. The plants are started under glass in boxes five inches square. It required 25 men three weeks to set out this amount of ground. In this way every hill is assured from the start, and there are no fights with the million foes to plant life that lurk in every favored spot. There are about 175 acres now set to melons near Benton Harbor, and the customers for the coming crop are already secured and are awaiting their maturity.

There is much interest manifested in "Fruit Exchange," that shall make a market at the shipping point for the fruit, where the grower can exchange his product for the money and forego the risk from that point until the returns come back. It is proposed to relegate all these chances to those who make it a business, and make the fruit-grower only what his name implies, and not a conglomerate of peddler, shipper, and detective all in one.

A ride of five miles out in any direction from either of the towns above mentioned is a rare sight. It is almost one continuous stretch of vineyards and berry plantations as far as one can see.

For the Michigan Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

POSTORIA, June 14, 1888.

"The advocates of compulsory manual labor in an agricultural school, says Prof. Massey in the *American Farmer*, as quoted by the press, lose sight of the fact that the object of these schools is not the training of farm laborers, but the training and developing of executive talent, which shall be employed in future years in the skillful management and direction of farm laborers. There will always be hewers of wood and drawers of water without college education, and the student will find when he takes charge of a farm that any of his negro laborers can beat him at the manual exercises he has spent so much time learning."

The foregoing is clipped from the last weekly issue of the *Pittsburgh Free Press*, and I cannot allow its statements to go out before the agricultural readers of that paper without a vigorous protest. Michigan occupies a proud position among the galaxy of States of the American union, and no one star in her escucheon shines brighter before the country and before the world than her Agricultural College. In agricultural education Michigan stands the pioneer State, and if there is any one thing that more than any or all others has contributed to our unprecedented success, it is that we have made theory and practice go hand in hand. Labor and study if not pushed to extremes are not incompatible with each other; a reasonable amount of manual labor gives activity to the blood, and to all the functions of the human system. It arouses the mind from that lethargy which settles over it as the inevitable accompaniment of physical idleness. Furthermore, any lesson on agricultural subjects, when read from the books is but half learned, but when enforced by actual practice in the field makes an impression that will not be soon forgotten. Had our Michigan educationalists all been of the Prof. Massey school, our Agricultural College would never have been heard of, except as a miserable failure, and its fate would have been pointed at throughout the land as a lesson to warn the people of the folly of "book farming." Little do the rank and file of our farmers know of the difficulties that our College has had, and still has to contend against, and among them all there is none more pernicious in its consequences and more embarrassing than this one idea against manual schools. Let us look closely at this argument of Prof. Massey's, for it deserves more than a passing notice. He tells us: "There will always be hewers of wood and drawers of water without college education, and the student will find when he takes charge of a farm that any of his negro laborers can beat him at the manual exercise he has spent so much time learning." Let us examine this argument and follow it to its sequence. The student refuses to bring his physical powers into his business, because forthwith a negro may be stronger than he. And how about the negro? He sees that an ox, a horse or an elephant is stronger than he, and so he gets up on his dignity and refuses to work--for he is remembered, and there has been a great deal of pains taken to teach the negro that he is as good as anybody. I take the liberty to assert that the man who has never lifted his hands with farm labor would make a very poor superintendent on the farm. Would it be likely that the Jake Strawns, the Sullivans, and the Dalrymples of our land would be so good to soil his hands with farm labor? Furthermore, the boys we send to our Agricultural College are not one-tenth of them above the need of laboring for their worldly prosperity, and for the few who are too high toned to labor, the country has plenty of other institutions for them. The Agricultural College was not established for such exalted beings, and they may as well understand it first as last. Nothing could do more to cast discredit upon the cause of honest industrious farm laborers than the promulgation of this theory of Prof. Massey's. While we are teaching the youth of the land how best to till the soil which is the God-given inheritance

of man, there is no one thing we should take more pains to inculcate than the dignity and the honor of useful labor. Furthermore in a sanitary point of view it is most indispensable. "Toll and be strong," says the poet. Thousands of the brightest youth of our land have been sacrificed on the altar of education, and sent to untimely graves, simply because they have been denied the pure air and exercise of out door employment. All the medicine in the world could not save them, but had their studies been properly interlarded and relieved by out door exercise and moderate labor, to give health and vigor to the system and tone to the muscles, they might have been living and useful citizens to-day, instead of mouldering in untimely graves, and casting a gloom over the social circle of friends and kindred. Would to God that our educationalists thoroughly understood this principle. "A sound mind cannot exist in an enfeebled body." It is said that there are exceptions to all general rules, but in all our country's experience I can think of but one man of really great mind in a feeble body, and that was Alexander H. Stephens. A glance at the world's great men will furnish the most striking proof of this principle. From Julius Caesar and Peter the Great and Napoleon, down to Gladstone, Washington, Daniel Boone, Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln, you will find that a strong body, like the steam engine, is the propelling power that forces onward and backs up the action of a strong mind. The poet Byron well appreciates this principle when he speaks of "the city's dwarfish pale abortions," and illustrates his point by citing the fact that "Boone lived hunting up to ninety."

In conclusion let me say, all honor to Michigan's Agricultural College, and all honor to its able and faithful managers; and as such I include the State Board of Agriculture with the College faculty, for they have always shown themselves level headed on this subject. And last but not of the least importance I desire to say, all honor to that noble band of students, who appreciate and accept the situation, and can learn both by theory and practice the noblest occupation without getting the "big head," and trying to rise above that sphere for which Nature designed them.

THE MEAT SUPPLY IN FRANCE.

The French Farmers are not satisfied with the Prices Obtained for Stock--Where Supplies of Meat Come From--Suggestions to Remedy an Evil.

From Our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, June 5, 1888.

French farmers complain that despite the next to prohibitive duties on imported meat and cereals, their position continues unimproved. A parliamentary inquiry into the causes of the depression will in a short time issue its report, and which is expected to throw much light on the perplexing subject. Respecting the meat question, there is this anomaly to signalize that the producer complains of the low price he receives for his fat stock, and the customer grows at the high price he has to pay the butcher. The cattle crisis in France, as has already been pointed out, is due to an over-production of stock, sent to market in a lean condition and left on the owner's hands. At present the crusade is directed to keep out fresh meat, chiefly mutton, shipped in refrigerators. This affects the Argentine Republic, as Australasia as yet exports no lean carcasses to France.

France has cried out very loudly because she was included in the new English duty of sixpence per bottle on bottled wines. By her prohibitive tariff she keeps out the American pork, and America retaliates by excluding French wines, silks and works of art. In 1885 the duty on lean mutton from Buenos Ayres was seven fr. per 100 kilos. Since April, 1887, the duty has been raised to 12 fr., and promises not to stop there. France can export goods into England next to free of duty, while British merchandise imported into France is subjected to a tax equal to half its value. The Villette market, or Paris Smithfield, regulates the price of cattle on foot. During the three months ending December 31, 1887, there were sold 467,000 sheep; of this total 268,000 were of French origin, the remainder came from Germany, Russia, Austria and Italy. French breeders supplied 57 per cent, and foreigners 43. In addition to the above supply there are daily sold outside the city 500 slaughtered sheep, forwarded from Germany.

Four establishments at Buenos Ayres during 1887 slaughtered and shipped one million sheep. About 10,000 carcasses are exported per month to Havre, and sent on to Paris; that is, about six per cent of the mutton supply comes in the refrigerated form from the Argentine Republic. The United States has closed its ports against the admission of Australian and La Plata wools, and the mutton exporters of Buenos Ayres complain they cannot maintain the dead meat trade unless their government allows them a bounty. The shareholders in these meat factories complain they receive no dividend and are being constantly called upon to pay for costly installations; on the other hand the sheep farmer laments that the price he is paid for his products is unremunerative, and that he cannot find a buyers market for what he sends. The proprietors of the frigorific houses reply, only the best meat will support the voyage to

Harve or Liverpool, and the supply of first-class sheep is limited. The question is now accepted as settled that imported dead meat, except for a few persons of difficult taste, can hold its own in the market with that from the home slaughterhouse.

In Great Britain alone the demand for meat is greater than the supply of 500,000 tons, or ten times more than Buenos Ayres could dispatch, to say nothing of Australia. The deficit meat supply in France is estimated at 150,000 tons annually. There cannot be much profit on the exportation of frozen mutton to judge by what arrives here from La Plata, as Australia sends none. The wholesale price of frigorific mutton is half a franc per lb. or ten sous; from this must be deducted about five sous per lb. to cover expenses of transport, duties, etc.; so that breeders and slaughter-house firms at Buenos Ayres have to seek their profits in the other moiety, that is, five sous per lb. As they are the middle and above all the working classes, who are the clients of imported fresh meat, home farmers ought to aim to produce good mutton at a moderate price for the relatively rich. Now, as in the case of cattle so it is with sheep; they are the intermediaries who are the cause of the complaint on the part of the breeder and the consumer.

At Smithfield there is a cattle ring, or rather two, for the intermediaries take up what the first cannot directly embrace. Both combinations are fatally opposed to the interests of the farmer. The latter sells a bullock on foot, weighing 10 cwt., for 410 fr.; the animal is transported to Paris and sold at Villotte to a broker, called the chevillard, who is master of the market. The chevillard purchases the cattle, slaughters them, and then sell the four quarters to the butchers. The latter kill no animals. The chevillard retains for himself what he calls the "fifth quarter," or the offal, valued at 70 fr., and which is one of the principal sources of his profits. The chevillards or the agents buy from the farmer, according as it suits the wants of the ring. Its members unite to have officially announced a certain number of head of stock for sale; they keep back reserves in the neighborhood of Paris, the market is short of supplies, then up go prices. After a few hours they send in more stock, and thus the gambling game is played.

The bullock which is bought on foot from the farmer at eight sous per lb. is sold by the chevillard to the butcher at 13 sous, the former has already the 70 fr. for the "fifth quarter" to his credit. Transport and barrier dues will cost the butcher two sous additional. M. Baillet, an expert, states that the butcher, if honest, ought to be content with a profit of two sous per lb., were he to sell the various parts of the carcass at their true value. As the butcher does no such thing, but sells secondary for first-class morsels, and mixes up two or three different kinds of meat, he can make 140 fr. profit on six cwt. of dead meat--the weight of the four quarters, instead of some 57 fr., by his disloyal tricks of trade; so that the farmer who sold the beast originally at 410 fr., sees it realize in the butcher's stall, the offal included, a total of 710 fr. There is thus a difference of 300 fr., or 75 per cent, going into the pockets of middlemen, therein included their actual expenses. That is an enormous profit and at the cost of the farmer. The sole remedy for this unjust state of things is: let farmers extend their industry and co-operate to slaughter their own cattle and sell their own meat. The plan has succeeded in the case of milk, butter, cheese, fruit, and vegetables. Why not go a step further?

THE NURSERYMEN.

Thirteenth Annual Convention of the National Association.

The National Association of Nurserymen held its thirteenth annual convention in this city on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Upon the opening of the meeting, President C. L. Watrous, of Des Moines, Iowa, assumed the chair and appointed the following standing committees: Order of business--S. M. Emery, Minnesota; N. H. Albough, Ohio; William Pitkin, New York. Exhibits--J. W. Manning, Massachusetts; G. A. Alwood, New York; Silas Wilson, Iowa. Final resolutions--George W. Campbell, Ohio; C. H. Ferrell, Tennessee; J. T. Lovett, New Jersey.

Mr. A. R. Whitney, of Illinois, Treasurer, presented his report, which showed a deficiency of \$256.84. It was referred to the Executive Committee.

On motion the President was requested to appoint a committee of five to report a plan for a general advance in prices in nursery stock. The President appointed as such committee, S. W. Call, Perry, O.; Wm. Brown Smith, Syracuse, N. Y.; Franklin Davis, Baltimore, Md.; G. E. Meissner, Bushberg, Mo.; L. G. Bragg, Kalamazoo, Mich.

The Secretary was, on motion, instructed not to pay freight hereafter on articles sent to sessions of the Association for exhibition, and requesting exhibitors to ship in their own name to the care of the Secretary.

The committee on order of business reported a programme for the meeting, and condensing into it a two days' session instead of three, as was originally intended.

In the afternoon the half hour previous to 2:30 was allotted to E. W. Daniels, of Aurora, Wis., to tell of his experience with,

and the merits of, the Northwestern Greening. The members, however, did not show up until a few minutes before the time appointed for the regular order of business, and Mr. Daniels consequently was shut off after he had finished reading some very strong commendations of the fruit, from parties who had been testing it, and before he had time to say anything. He asked for another opportunity to address the Association, but every time he got on his feet there was some objection, or some motion to consider other business, and he left for his home without a chance to say anything. He had some 400 miles, had samples of last season's crop with him in a good state of preservation, and testimonials from leading business men and fruit-growers as to his own character and the merits of this apple. It is very apparent the nursery men were determined he should not be heard, and some of them thought it was a good joke to "sit down on the old man," as one of them expressed it.

Then President Watrous read his annual address, in which he said the meeting was held under circumstances of great encouragement, and that in the matter of transportation alone it has accomplished more during the past year than in any three preceding in the history of the Association, the product of the nurseries now being transported as third instead of first-class matter. In the matter of securing reduced postage on cuttings, plants, seeds, bulbs, etc., the work of the year, though not completed, shows great promise, and, take it all in all, the work of the year has more than repaid all the Association has ever cost its members. In spite of some drawbacks, the year has not been unfavorable and the past winter in the west has been much less destructive than any of its immediate predecessors. The result of losses in this and previous seasons goes to prove that indigenous fruit and its derived varieties are what is wanted, and that in regions where all fruits descended from foreign ancestors have been severely crippled, the native forms and their derived varieties have suffered comparatively little. All that is needed is that painstaking and conscientious men shall originate new and better adapted forms in every locality whose conditions render such labor necessary, and shall seek out and propagate such promising chance seedlings as may from time to time appear, in order that each and every botanical region may have an abundance of varieties well adapted to its needs. No fruit is more open to improvement than the apple, and there is reason to believe that in the course of the present generation the common and universally propagated varieties of the apple in the Northwest will be descendants of the native "crab." There has been exhibited two different varieties of apples bearing unmistakable proofs of legitimate descent from native thickets, which have excited favorable attention. The cherry is also amenable to the same laws, and the best authorities now agree that American trees are the best for America, whether fruit, shade or ornamental. The observance of geological and climatic influences should be one of the rules of the true nurseryman, and careful and intelligent experimentation should be his daily duty.

One great task before the Association, said President Watrous, is that of discovering how to place its products in the hands of planters under their correct names, and without fraud, though the day may never come when the zealous "tree missionary" will wholly refrain from describing a fruit or flower in rose-tinted language, when seeking an order; but the day must come when the sins of deliberately filling an order with things quite different in name and nature from the things described, and sold, must be wiped away. If members of the Association would resolve to sell no stock by any dealer suspected to be guilty of fraud in filling orders, these sinners would be forced out of the trade, or to more honest and careful methods. And with the President we hope the time is near at hand when this fraud will be done away with.

Mr. S. M. Emery, of Minnesota, chairman of the committee on transportation, submitted his report, which detailed the work of the committee and its success in getting reduced rates for transportation.

Mr. W. C. Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., was to have read a paper on the higher aims of the Association, but said that business cares had prevented his preparing one; but he made a brief impromptu address, in which he reviewed the objects of the Association as announced by it, taking occasion in his remarks, while urging free discussion of important topics, to emphasize the necessity of brevity and of a presentation of facts. He spoke highly of the American Pomological Society, and urged his hearers to become members of it.

Mr. N. H. Albough, of Tadmor, O., was called upon, in the absence of Mr. Thomas Meahan, of Germantown, Pa., to read an address by that gentleman on the production of new varieties of fruits and flowers. The paper was received with marked approval, and ordered printed in the report of the proceedings.

Mr. S. D. Willard moved that a delegation of members be appointed to tell their experience with new and valuable fruits.

On Thursday the sultry weather appeared to affect the members so much that business was conducted in a very quiet way, and discussions were not animated.

N. H. Albough, of Ohio, read a paper prepared by Irving House, of New York, on (Continued on eighth page.)

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DETROIT, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

This Paper is Entered at the Detroit Post-
office as second class matter.

WHEAT.

The receipts of wheat in this market
last week amounted to 21,883 bu., against
71,388 bu. the previous week, and 45,888
bu. for the corresponding week in 1887. Ship-
ments for the week were 16,250 against
50,689 bu. the previous week and 48,908 bu.
the corresponding week in 1887. The stocks
of wheat now held in this city amount to
255,852 bu., against 278,153 bu. last week
and 90,174 bu. at the corresponding date
in 1887. The visible supply of this grain on
June 16 was 23,340,809 bu. against 26,752,
815 the previous week, and 41,217,221
for the corresponding week in 1887. This
shows a decrease from the amount reported
the previous week of 512,008 bushels. As
compared with a year ago the visible sup-
ply shows a decrease of 15,976,412 bu.

The wheat market shows weakness after
declining fully 1 1/4 @ 1 1/2 on spot and 2 1/4 @
3 1/2 on futures from the prices of a week
ago. Timely rains, exaggerated reports of
the fine condition of the growing crop, and
the general depression in all branches of
business are accountable for the present
condition of the market. Wheat is really
worth more money to hold as an investment
than it is now selling at, and when the
"bears" have got values down to the lowest
ebb, then a number of the big fellows in the
trade will begin buying, and prices will go
again. Never before have stocks of
wheat in the country been so low at this
season as now, taking the consumptive de-
mand into consideration. Chicago was also
lower yesterday, but that was to be expect-
ed with politics absorbing more attention
than business. New York also reported a
further decline, and domestic markets
closed weak. Liverpool was reported flat
and London dull, with prices about 1d.
per bushel lower than a week ago. The close
in this market was at the lowest points reached.

The following table exhibits the daily closing
prices of spot wheat in this market from
June 1st to June 22nd, inclusive:

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
White.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
Red.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
June 1st.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 2nd.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 3rd.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 4th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 5th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 6th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 7th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 8th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 9th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 10th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 11th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 12th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 13th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 14th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 15th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 16th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 17th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 18th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 19th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 20th.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 21st.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2
" 22nd.	96 1/2	95 1/2	94 1/2

For No. 2 red the closing prices on the
various dates each day of the past week
were as follows:

	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.
Saturday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Sunday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Monday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Tuesday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Wednesday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Thursday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87
Friday.	89 1/2	87 1/2	87	87

The annual manufacture of flour in the
United States is estimated at 75,000,000
barrels, of which 62,000,000 are taken up by
domestic consumption.

The "bears" in this market are spread-
ing the report that Michigan's wheat crop
will be fully as large as last year.

Foreign news from the growing crop
shows the outlook to be less favorable than
some weeks ago. The latest agricultural re-
ports from Hungary are less favorable.
Drought and heat have more or less affected
the crops, which are behind their normal
stage of growth. Wheat is urgently in need
of rain; its condition is poorer than at the
previous report. Rye will be a short crop.
Maize is only promising well in a few dis-
tricts.

In France vegetation has made slow pro-
gress and rain is much needed for the grow-
ing wheat, which is reported to be irregular
and suffering drought in the principal wheat
districts. The condition of the plant is far
from satisfactory, being a month late, thin
and patchy, and losing color. Light rains
have recently fallen, but more moisture
and warmer weather is requisite if the
harvest is to be a fairly good one.

In Germany the crops are very backward,
wheat is well spoken of, but complaints are
to rye, the chief food of the people, are
serious. Rain is greatly needed, and favorable
weather is requisite if even the wheat
harvest shall be equal to last year's.

Belgium's crop prospects are good, though
the yield of wheat will hardly equal that of
last year.

The wheat crop of New South Wales is
reported to be very poor, and that of New
Zealand proves, upon threshing, to be fully
25 per cent less than estimated, owing to
hot, dry weather at the blooming period.
The yield this season is reported to be the

poorest for years, and at the same time
prices are ruinously low so that farmers have
hardly held their own, financially.

Wheat harvesting is reported to have com-
menced in southern Indiana. In Virginia
and Tennessee some threshing has been
done.

The following table shows the quantity
of wheat "in sight" at the dates named, in
the United States, Canada, and on passage
to Great Britain and the Continent of Eu-
rope:

	Bushels.
Visible supply.	36,425,420
On passage for United Kingdom.	30,136,630
On passage for Continent of Europe.	4,112,000
Total.	70,674,050
Total previous week.	69,354,465
Total two weeks ago.	50,982,228
Total June 4, 1888.	62,146,871

The estimated receipts of foreign and
home-grown wheat in the English markets
for the week ending June 9 were only
364,440 bu. less than the estimated
consumption; and for the eight weeks end-
ing May 26 the receipts are estimated to
have been 7,976,976 bu. less than the con-
sumption. The receipts show a decrease
of 4,481,392 bu. as compared with the cor-
responding eight weeks in 1887.

Shipments of wheat from India for the
week ending June 9, 1888, as per special
cable to the New York Produce Exchange,
aggregated 980,000 bu., of which 540,000
were for the United Kingdom and 440,
000 to the Continent. The shipments for
the previous week, as cabled, amounted to
1,400,000 bushels, of which 680,000 went
to the United Kingdom and 720,000 to
the Continent. The total shipments from
April 1, 1888, which was the beginning
of the crop year, to June 9, 1888, have
been 9,500,000 bu., including 4,000,000 bu.
to the United Kingdom, 5,440,000 to the
Continent. The wheat on passage from
India May 29 was estimated at 4,792,000 bu.
One year ago the quantity was 3,712,000 bu.

The Liverpool market on Friday was
quoted flat with light demand. Quotations
for American wheat are as follows: No. 2
winter, 6s. 6d. @ 6s. 7d. per cental; No. 2
spring, 6s. 6d. @ 6s. 7d.; California No. 1
6s. 6d. @ 6s. 8d.

CORN AND OATS.

CORN.

The receipts of corn in this market
last week were 22,442 bu., against 7,539 bu.
the previous week, and 7,152 bu. for the
corresponding week in 1887. Shipments for
the week were 1,103 bu., against 5,180 bu.
the previous week, and 1,044 bu. for the
corresponding week in 1887. The visible
supply of corn in the country on June 16
amounted to 12,448,543 bu. against 11,105,
065 bu. the previous week, and 11,771,164 bu.
at the same date in 1887. The visible sup-
ply shows an increase during the week indi-
cated of 1,343,478 bu. The stocks now held in
this city amount to 37,000 bu. against 25,846
last week, and 17,936 bu. at the corre-
sponding date in 1887. As compared with
a year ago the visible supply shows an in-
crease of 677,379 bu. The market is ex-
tremely dull, and the demand has been so
light that values are barely tested. Yester-
day No. 2 yellow sold at 49¢ per bu., and No. 2
was quoted at 48¢ and No. 4 at 47¢. The fine
prospects for the growing crop, which al-
though backward is now doing well and has
come up very evenly, together with the
knowledge that a large increase in the area
planted is general throughout the corn belt,
makes the market very weak and uncertain.
At present it looks as if the crop
this season would be the largest ever grown.
At Chicago the conditions are about the
same as in this market. Receipts there are
heavy, and with a light demand it is
really weaker than wheat. Latest quotations
in that market yesterday were 46¢ @
47¢ for No. 2 spot, 47¢ @ 48¢ for June delivery,
47¢ for July, and 48¢ for August.
Most parts of this State have been visited
with refreshing rains the past week, and
these, combined with the warm sunshine,
has brought forward corn very fast. It is
yet fully two weeks behind ordinary seasons,
however, and it will require a late fall to
enable it to mature in the northern counties.
The "corner" in Austria-Hungary is still
in running order, and the syndicate said to
be taking all the corn offering.

The Liverpool market on Thursday was
dull but values were lower. The following
are the latest cable quotations from Liver-
pool: Spot mixed, 4s. 7 1/2d. per cental;
June delivery at 4s. 7d., and July at 4s. 7d.

OATS.

The receipts at this point for the week were
12,654 bu., against 29,535 bu. the previous
week, and 35,608 bu. for the corresponding
week last year. The shipments for the week
were 1,805 bu., against 5,543 the previous
week, and 3,600 bu. for same week in
1887. The visible supply of this grain on
June 16 was 5,767,000 bu., against 5,329,313
bu. the previous week, and 5,013,900 at the
corresponding date in 1887. The visible
supply shows an increase of 437,687 bu.
for the week indicated. Stocks held in
store here amount to 33,920 bu., against
43,548 bu. the previous week, and 27,558
bu. at the corresponding date in 1887. Oats
have declined in about the same ratio as
other grains the past week, and close de-
pressed. Offerings appear to be rather in
excess of requirements. This is true with
the Chicago market also, which has been
on the down grade all week. No. 2 white
has dropped to 35¢ per bu., while No. 2
mixed are quoted at 34¢. Yesterday
25,000 bu. No. 2 mixed for August delivery
were sold at 26¢. At Chicago the market
for spot yesterday was a little stronger
in tone than the previous day, with futures
slightly lower. Quotations in that market
yesterday were as follows: No. 2 mixed
spot, 31¢; June delivery, 31¢; July, 30¢;
August, 29¢. The New York market was
quiet and steady, with all grades lower
than a week ago. Quotations in that market
are as follows: No. 2 white, 40¢ @ 40¢; No. 2
white, 40¢ @ 40¢; No. 2 mixed, 34¢ @ 35¢.
In futures No. 2 mixed for June sold at
34¢; July at 34¢, and August at 31¢ @
31 1/2¢. Western sold at 40¢ @ 40¢ for white,
and 32¢ @ 37¢ for mixed.

INSTEAD of the regular July meeting the
Columbia Farmers' Club will hold their sec-
ond annual picnic at Eagle's Point, July
4th, and have invited surrounding clubs to
take part. Besides essays, songs, etc., the
programme includes papers on the "Kind
of Rules needed for Successful Farming," by
Messrs. Flint, Gallop & Edwards; discus-
sion to follow.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

BUTTER.

The market is again lower, and has
reached the lowest points touched last sea-
son. The weather has been warm, and this
millitated to some extent against the trade.
Dairy is quoted steady at 10¢ @ 11¢ for fair to
good, 13¢ @ 14¢ for choice, and 15¢ for fancy
packages, which are scarce. Creamery is
quiet, and quoted at 17¢ @ 18¢ per lb. Re-
ceipts are large except of fancy dairy. At
Chicago the receipts are reported to be only
moderate, as some of the production of the
West is going into country ice-houses for
account of Eastern speculators. The feel-
ing is less firm in high-grade creameries
than in medium grades. Dairies are steady
and lard-packs in light supply
and selling at 12 1/2¢ @ 14 1/2¢ per lb.; fancy
Elgin creameries, 15¢ @ 19 1/2¢ per lb.; fine
lows, Wisconsin and Minnesota do, 17 1/2¢ @
18 1/2¢; fair to good do, 15¢ @ 17¢; fancy dairies,
15¢ @ 16¢; common to fair do, 13¢ @ 14¢; pack-
ing stock, 12¢ @ 13¢. The New York market
has also declined during the week, and
seems to be in a rather depressed condition.
The Daily Bulletin says of the market:
"The supply continues quite liberal, the
demand slow, and only for such small lots
as are urgently wanted for immediate use,
and with stocks accumulating, the market
is weak and unsettled. The only hope of
relief would appear to be an active specula-
tive or export outlet. From present indica-
tions there is little chance of much help
from foreign demand, but it is hoped the
reduced prices will stimulate a speculative
demand. State creamery-pails are working
out slowly and 20¢ above all that can be
depended on for wholesale business, while
that is certainly the extreme for tubs.
Western creamery reaches 19 1/2¢ often en-
ough to warrant quoting, but it is the ex-
treme, and just as good obtainable at 19¢.
Next grades under are offered at 18¢ @ 18 1/2¢,
and good lots at 17¢ @ 17 1/2¢, while some de-
fective lots are offered at 16¢ @ 16 1/2¢. State
dairy continues scarce, and the few lots ar-
riving work out at about quotations. Im-
itation creamery and Western dairy plenty,
selling slowly and the tone easy. Factory
sales to sell, though some of the favorite
marks of ladies are still held at 16¢."

Quotations in that market yesterday were
as follows:

EASTERN STOCK.

Creamery, State, full, fancy.	22 1/2
Creamery, State, full, fancy.	19 1/2
Creamery, prime.	18 1/2
Creamery, good.	17 1/2
Creamery, fair.	16 1/2
State dairy, full, fancy.	16 1/2
State dairy, full, good.	15 1/2
State dairy, full, fair.	14 1/2
State dairy, full, poor.	13 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	12 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	11 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	10 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	9 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	8 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	7 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	6 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	5 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	4 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	3 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	2 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	1 1/2
State dairy, full, very poor.	1/2

WESTERN STOCK.

Western Creamery, fancy.	19 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	18 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	17 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	16 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	15 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	14 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	13 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	12 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	11 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	10 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	9 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	8 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	7 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	6 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	5 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	4 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	3 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	2 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	1 1/2
Western Creamery, fancy.	1/2

The exports of butter from Atlantic ports
for the week ending June 9 were 115,078
lbs, against 175,353 the previous week, and
148,463 for the corresponding week in 1887.

CHEESE.

There has been a general decline in
cheese at the west, helped by large receipts
in the various markets, the poor quality of
a considerable portion from the hot weather,
and the lighter demand at eastern points
for shipment. Foreign markets have also
declined under the pressure of heavy ar-
rivals, and the situation at the moment is
not a satisfactory one. Quotations here are
8 1/2¢ @ 9¢ for full cream Michigan; 9¢ @ 9 1/2¢ for
New York, and 8¢ @ 8 1/2¢ for Ohio. Skims
are held at 5¢ @ 7¢ for choice. At Chicago
the market is steady but at lower prices.
There is considerable complaint that cur-
rent receipts in that market include much
cheese that is inferior because of the hot
weather. Cooler full creams are steady un-
der the usual demand; while skims and
low grades are dull. Quotations in that
market yesterday were as follows:
New full cream, cheddars, 7 1/2¢ @ 7 3/4¢ per
lb.; do. flats, 7 1/2¢ @ 8¢; do. Young America,
8 1/2¢ @ 9¢; poor to choice skims, 2¢ @ 3¢; brick
cheese, 10¢ @ 11¢. The New York market
has declined during the week, and is not
strong at the present range of values. The
Daily Bulletin, in its report of the market,
says:

"It was another dull day, and while the
giving way is somewhat slow and stubborn,
the indications pretty much all favored buy-
ers. The majority of holders seemed in-
clined to assume the position that they
would not sell unless 5 1/2¢ could be obtain-
ed, and they were very successful in falling
to obtain custom at that rate, buyers gener-
ally refusing to make any move in excess of
5 1/2¢, and no special display of interest
manifested even at that rate, which seems to
be about all that can fairly be quoted to
represent an operating basis. The trouble
seems to be from the other side, both public
and private, still falling to encourage, and
in some instances quoting lower than be-
fore. Country reports continue pretty
steady and 8 1/2¢ was paid at Ingersoll,
Canada, but the position here is controlled
by the indifferent foreign demand, and there
is nothing promising from the present out-
look."

Quotations in that market yesterday were
as follows:

State factory, full cream, colored.	8 1/2
State factory, full cream, white.	8 1/2
State factory, good.	8 1/2
State factory, medium grades cream	7 1/2
State factory, light skims.	6 1/2
State factory, light skims.	6 1/2
State factory, medium.	5 1/2
State factory, full skims.	5 1/2
Ohio flats, best.	8 1/2
Ohio flats, ordinary.	7 1/2

The receipts of cheese in New York for
the week ending June 14 were 49,321
boxes, against 51,310 the previous week,
and 68,228 boxes the corresponding week
in 1887. The exports from all Atlantic
ports for the same week were 2,509,472 lbs.,
against 3,356,450 lbs. the previous week,
and 4,019,642 lbs. the corresponding week in
1887.

The Liverpool market on Friday was
quoted dull for American colored at 43¢.
6d. per cwt., and dull for American
white at 43¢. 6d.

A SUBSCRIBER inquires whether there is
any danger to be apprehended to sheep or
hogs kept in an orchard from spraying trees
with Paris green. We think there certainly
would be if they were in the orchard while
the spraying was being done. Better keep
them out until after a good rain has followed
the spraying.

A PERTINENT QUESTION.—Prior to the
tariff reduction of '73, Texas sheepmen paid
taxes on over \$9,000,000 worth of sheep.
Now they pay taxes on about half that value.
Who pays the taxes now that the sheepmen
paid them?—Texas Stockman and Farmer.

WOOL.

We note a somewhat better tone in the
Boston market for good wool, evidently
caused by light stocks and the poor condi-
tion of the wools yet held. The outlook in
other respects has not improved, manufac-
turers being dissatisfied with prices realized
for goods, as well as the light demand.
There does not appear to be any change in
prices, and manufacturers are only taking
small lots of special grades they need at the
moment. It is a waiting market all around,
with the final result that Congressional ac-
tion is at the bottom of the policy, by all
those who deal in wool or woolen goods,
from the grower to the consumer. The Bos-
ton Advertiser says of the market:

"The wool markets of the country, while
considerably below last year in price, are
yet too low to tempt either dealers or man-
ufacturers, although some buying has al-
ready been done. Those dealers who have
operated have done so more or less on or-
ders, or else to try the market, and the re-
sult has not been in any way satisfactory.
Dealers who have bought any of the new
clip as yet, and got out of it at cost, have
been fortunate, the feeling being that the
average country price is still about five and
ten per cent. too high to make it appear a
safe venture to operate in. The market is
now considerably behind last year at this
time in activity, while the receipts of do-
mestic wool since the first of the year are
nearly 30,000 bags behind the same time in
1887."

"Ohio fleeces are quoted at about 25¢ to
26¢, but the latter figure means very
choice lots. For X and above Ohio fleeces,
25¢ is about an outside figure, with the
range 1/2¢ lower. No. 1 fleeces are
continuing to come in, and the light offer-
ings. Michigan fleeces continue scarce, and
the range is about 25¢ to 27¢ for X lots.
Combining wools are merely nominal, there
being light offerings and very little demand.
Delaines continue dull and weak, with few
sales reported above 25¢ for Michigan
and Ohio, although some fine lots are held
above these figures. The low price of im-
ported lots still keeps delaine wools down,
as on a 10¢ duty these latter wools have no
chance to compete with the importations.
The stock of territory wools here has been
well reduced, and general selections are not
in any way plenty."

Referring to woolen goods, the Herald,
of Boston, says:

"On woolen goods the market is dull.
The cassimere mills are generally running,
to be sure, but they are fast approaching
the end of their orders, and unless the
orders come in the month of
July shall be sufficient to keep them run-
ning the balance of the season, they threat-
en to shut down. There is a bitter com-
plaint among the makers of yards that they
are not getting their product. The blanket
people are not fully satisfied with the results
of the recent auction sales, but whether they
will not keep right on making for the pur-
pose of selling out in the same way another
week, or whether they will wait until the
dealer proposes to consider. These blanket
people may have lost money, and they may
have made money, it is pretty evident that
they are going right on and do the same
thing again."

The Philadelphia Record, a strong sup-
porter of the Mills bill, recites in its review
of the market, some of the results which it
has already accomplished in the way of
paralyzing the manufacturers of the country.
It says:

"A very large percentage of the country's
woolen machinery is idle, and needs no
raw materials for one week. The wool
is generally at work on orders that yield
very little if any margin of profit to man-
ufacturers. Hence the apathy of consumers.
Stocks are running down, and very little
new wool is being ordered. There is no
supply, such as would be felt to the
advantage of prices if the mills were active-
ly employed and manufacturers had to pur-
chase any considerable amount of wool from
present stock. The country market con-
tinues dull. Dealers cannot see their way
clearly to stock up at prices asked by grow-
ers, but buy sparingly in small lots to cover
pressing needs. Everybody is waiting anx-
iously for a settlement of the tariff question."

Some manufacturers are reported to have
bought considerable wool in Texas, and
there was rather more activity there the
past week. Values are fully 5¢ per lb.
lower than a year ago, and some dealers ex-
press the opinion that when present buyers
get what they want prices will sag down to
a lower range.

The New York market shows no improve-
ment, and the trade journals there do not
appear to believe that any relief may be
looked for at present. The stagnation of
trade is not confined to wool and woolen
goods alone, it seems to permeate nearly
every branch of business except politics.
In its review of the market the U. S.
Economist of the 16th inst. says:

"Owing to the stagnation and low prices
prevailing for wool throughout the country
and the rainy weather which prevailed all
along the coast, the wool market is con-
fined to town and country. In Texas, the
first State in the union to shear the sheep,
after a long struggle two-thirds of the clip
has passed from farmers' hands at a full
average price for the season, and the wool
is in California and Oregon the same
stagnation and depression prevails, and
sheep will be slaughtered for the flesh, if
nothing else. In the northern and western
States and Territories shearing has been
delayed until the farmers put in their
crops, and we may regard the season
as four weeks backward. Not much
buying is going on, except in a small
way. In some parts of Michigan wool
is sold at 25¢ and 26¢, and in other sec-
tions of Ohio some wool has been sold at
25¢, but generally all good XX Ohio
wool and above is held at from 27¢ to 30¢
cents, which, taking the green condition,
the shrinkage and other drawbacks, may be
regarded as about the current ruling prices
in the leading markets on the seaboard."

"Now while this is the true state of the
markets from the Atlantic to the Pacific
ocean, it is very singular to find all the
English and European markets agitated and
prices advanced a full halfpenny. Now to
what are we to attribute this but to a short
South American clip, and to an active
European demand, and the wool blank-
et cloth and send the goods to agencies on
the spot at actual cost on starvation wages. If
anybody else knows of any truer reason we
should like to know it, for the whole nation
is interested about this subject. The phe-
nomena is so strange the mills are closing up,
and our Montevideo wools are going to
Antwerp to be made into cloths to come
here to undersell domestic-made goods."

In this market fine washed is quoted at
30¢ @ 31¢, medium at 24¢ @ 25¢, coarse at
23¢ @ 24¢, unwashed 1/2¢ off, and bucks' fleeces
1/2¢ off above figures. Very little has yet been
done here.

The following is a record of prices made
from actual sales in the eastern markets:
Ohio XX and above, 29¢; Ohio XX, 28¢;
Ohio X, 27 1/2¢ @ 28¢; Ohio No. 1, 33¢ @ 34¢;

proceeding on his part, as all sorts of tempting offers have been prepared in vain. He grows very weak and is losing flesh rapidly.

Mrs. Catherine Crowell, of Lancaster Co., S. C., who died the first of the current month at the age of 93 years, left 422 descendants, including the heirs of two of her 16 children who went west and are not represented in the National Republican Convention.

Chicago people presented to Chairman Rogers of the National Republican Convention a great deal of gold and silver, 12 inches long and weighing 31 ounces. It is said to be a very beautiful and artistic piece of workmanship.

The New York Women's Exchange, founded ten years ago, has now 27 branches and has sold one million dollars' worth of women's manufactures. The ten percent commission is a great success, as the Exchange is self-supporting.

Express Agent Huber was arrested at Philadelphia, Pa., on the 21st, at the instance of the Adams Express Co., for the theft of \$25,000 in August, 1886. Sixteen thousand dollars in the original packages, were found concealed in Huber's house.

Growers of sugar cane protest against the reduction of the duty on sugar, because the consequence would be the arrest of the development of that industry in the Southern States, and the raising of the price of sugar all over the world on account of a reduction of supply.

Lacy Parsons, wife of the executed anarchist, created considerable comment by driving about the streets of Chicago in a buggy to which was attached the life-sized caricature portrait of her deceased husband, and distributing anarchist circulars. The police took the outfit to the police station.

The Chicago Stockyards, all told, \$4,000,000. They cover an area which would make a number of good-sized farms. The Union Stock Yards comprise 350 acres of ground, and there are 20 miles of streets, 20 miles of water troughs, and 50 miles of feeding troughs in them. It takes five artesian wells to supply them with water.

The town of Dubois, Pa., named in honor of John Dubois, the Pennsylvania Convention, was nearly destroyed by fire on the 19th. Six hundred and fifty buildings, covering 30 acres of ground, were burned, and 4,000 people are homeless. The town had no fire department, and nothing could be done to save the progress of the flames. In the excitement, several lives were lost, and the loss of property was estimated at \$1,000,000. The prospect is the town will be rebuilt, as the business men have not "lost their grip" in spite of their overwhelming misfortune.

Stockholders Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Michigan Aluminum Company, of Detroit, Michigan, will be held at the Hotel House, Detroit, Michigan, on Tuesday, July 10th, 1888, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the election of a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such other business as may come before said meeting.

JAS. B. PETER, Secretary.

Dated June 13th, 1888.

Shorthorn Bulls for Sale.

Barrington, Kirkcaldy, Victoria Duesch, and other fine bred sorts. Good enough to head any herd. Prices and terms to suit the times. Address

C. F. MOORE, St. Clair, Mich.

SAVE MONEY!

Why allow manufacturers to make a large profit on Egg Food, when you can make a better article for less money? It has been used for years throughout California and other Western States, and with astonishing results. It not only makes hens lay, but also keeps them in good health. It also keeps them from getting sick, and it is a perfect food for all birds. Address ARIZONA POLY-TECH ASSOCIATION, Tucson, Arizona.

PURE SALT.

DID YOU EVER THINK,

That Pure Salt adds its fine flavor to all food seasoned with it. Its preserving and antiseptic qualities keep meats, butter, cheese and other food products better, longer and more perfectly than common salt.

Diamond and Crystal Salt is free from lime, magnesia and other impurities. Its flavor is delicious, its strength unrivaled, its purity unequalled.

It is especially refined for BEST TABLE and BAKING purposes. Its cheap enough for everybody.

DIAMOND CRYSTAL SALT.

It costs but little more than ordinary dry salt, and less than the best English, which is not so good.

FOR SALE.

Two Holstein Bull Calves, one to two months old, pure bred, eligible for registration, at very reasonable price if taken at once. Address

SAMUEL JOHNSON, AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE MICH.

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READ THIS GUARANTEE

Which appears on every can of

PENINSULAR READY MIXED PAINT

We guarantee this package to contain nothing but strictly pure Old Process White Lead and Oxide of Zinc, ground in pure Linseed Oil and dryers. Shades tinted with the most permanent colors.

We will pay One Ounce of Gold for every ounce of adulteration which this package may be found to contain. Peninsular White Lead & Color Works.

If you are thinking of painting this spring, it will pay you to send for sample cards and prices.

FARRAND, WILLIAMS & CO., General Agents, Detroit, Mich.

AUCTION SALE

OF 70 HEAD OF

HOLSTEIN FRIESIANS

The entire herd. We have disposed of our farm, and will sell our cattle without reserve at

On the Wisconsin Central R. R., July 18th, at 1:30 P. M.

Rockefeller, 33 Miles Northwest of Chicago.

The herd has been bred with great care and not an animal has been sold out of it consequently we do not offer a lot of culls. A head near the NEUTRAL BRAND name, and most of the others are descendants of ECHO, A.M.C. and other noted Friesians. This is a splendid chance to buy MAGNIFICENT FOUNDATION STOCK. For particulars and literature a notice will be sent to you.

BUCHANAN BROS., 225 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

CINCINNATI

JULY 4th to

OCT. 27th.

Rockefeller, 33 Miles Northwest of Chicago.

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THE GREAT REMEDY!

PROF. R. JENNINGS' COLIC MIXTURE

Horses, Cattle and Sheep

Every owner of a Horse, Cow or Sheep to keep this invaluable remedy, selected in Holland for cases of emergency. Each bottle contains eight full doses for Horses and Cattle and sixteen doses for sheep. A single dose in Colic when given in time usually has the desired effect. It will not spoil by age.

PRICE, \$1.00 PER BOTTLE.

Prepared only by

Prof. R. Jennings, Veterinary Surgeon

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THE GREAT REMEDY!

PROF. R

Poetry.

UNCLE NATE'S FUNERAL.

'Twas not at all like those you see of ordinary men:
'Twas such as never could occur, excepting now and then.
For Uncle Nate had studied hard upon it, night and day
And planned it all—while yet alive—in his peculiar way.
'I've managed other men's remains,' he said, 'I'll quiet tone,
'And now I'll make a first-class try to regulate my own.
And so, a month before his death, he wrote the details down.
For friends to print, when he was dead, and mail throughout the town.
The paper said: 'I've figured close, and done the best I knew,
To have a good large funeral, when this short life was through:
I've thought about it night and day, I've brooded o'er the same,
Until it almost seemed a task to wait until it came.
Especially as my good wife has wandered on ahead,
And all the children we possessed have many years been dead;
And now I'll tell you what I want my friends and foes to do—
I'm sorry that I can't be here to push the arrangements through:
'I do not want to hire a hearse, with crape around it thrown;
I'm social like, and am not used to riding round alone.
Bring my old wagon, into which the children used to climb,
Until I've taken on a drive full twenty at a time:
We've loafed along the country roads for many pleasant hours,
And they have scampered far and near, and picked the freshest flowers:
And I would like to have them come, upon my burial day,
And ride with me, and talk to me and sing along the way.
'I want my friend the minister—the best of preacher folk,
With whom I've argued, prayed and wept, and swapped a thousand jokes—
To talk a sermon to the friends, and make it sweet, but strong;
And recollect, I don't believe in speeches over long.
And tell him notwithstanding all his eloquence and worth,
'Twasn't he the first time I have slept when he was holding forth.
I'd like two texts; and one shall be by Bible covers pressed.
And one from outside; that shall read, 'He did his level best.'
'And any one I've given help—to comfort and to save—
Just bring a flower, or sprig of green, and throw it in the grave.
Please have a pleasant, social time round the subscriber's bier,
And no one but my enemies must shed a single tear.
You simply say, 'Old Uncle Nate, whatever may befall,
He's having probably to-day the best time of us all!
He's shaking hands, two at a time, with several hundred friends,
And giving us who stay behind good glib edged recommendations.'
They tried to follow all the rules that Uncle Nate laid down:
When he was dead, they came to him from every house in town.
The children did their best to sing, but could not quite be heard:
The parson had a sermon there, but did not speak a word.
Of course they buried him in flowers, and kissed him as he lay.
For not a soul in all that town but he had helped some way:
But when they tried to mound his mound without the tears' sweet leaven,
There rose loud sob that Uncle Nate could almost hear, in heaven.
Will Carleton in Harper's.

THE WANDERER.

Love comes back to his vacant dwelling—
The old, old love we knew of yore
We see stand by the open door,
With his great eyes sad and his bosom swelling—
He makes as though in our arms repelling,
He fain would lie as he lay before—
Love comes back to his vacant dwelling—
The old, old love that we knew of yore!
Ah! who shall help us from over-pelling,
That sweet forgotten, forgotten love!
Even as we doubt in our hearts our more,
With a rush of tears to our eyelids welling,
Love comes back to his vacant dwelling—
—Austin Dobson.

Miscellaneous.

MY NIECE MINNIE.

I was an old maid. There could be no doubt about it, for had not society decided that old women who are unmarried at thirty-six are old maids?—and I was thirty-six and unmarried. This state of affairs was not mine by choice—in truth, I do not believe that I had not yet seen any man whom I should really have liked to marry or for whose sake I would willingly have parted with my independence. I had not however seen many men. My father died while I was in my "teens," my only surviving sister, who was years older than myself, soon afterwards married and went out to India; and I had no brothers. I was then a girl living with a widowed mother, whose means were of the slenderest, and what chance had I of being anything but an old maid? I could not "go out," we could not "ask any one in," I was not a beauty, I had no friends to take any interest in me and long disinterestedly to see me comfortably settled; so the only thing to be done was to see patiently the years roll away one after another in my gray monotonous life, my mother looking after the house and our small servant, I working as a china-painting by which I made a fair living. I painted for the great china-works a few streets off; but I worked at home, this favor having been accorded to me in consideration of my being one of the cleverest hands and best designers, and also because my mother was delicate and often required my attention.
Thus the "twenties" passed, and the first of the "thirties," then a great change came—my dear mother died. My sister wrote, asking me to go out and share her Indian home; but I declined. I had my painting, and I still had the privilege of working at home; therefore I preferred independence and staying in the old cottage in the quiet street with one domestic. Thus the years passed till society decreed me an old maid.
The worst of it was that I did not feel

like an old maid; nor—so my mirror told me—did I look like one. I looked better at thirty-six than I had looked nearly a decade and a half earlier; no stranger would have supposed that I had passed that period which seems to be dreaded by so many women—the twenty-fifth birthday; and I felt an enjoyment of life—or rather I had a feeling as if I had not by any means outlived the possibility of enjoying life—which, considering everything, seemed very wonderful.
I could not help telling myself that it was a shame I should be irrevocably set down as an old maid, with no hope before me except to live in the quiet street and paint china till I had saved enough money to live on without painting, without even having a chance of knowing something of the brighter side of life! Ah, well, I thought, so it was—Fate had ordained it, and what Fate ordains must be borne somehow, and, if borne with patience, submission and cheerfulness, so much the better for ourselves and all around us! Therefore I sang snatches of songs over my painting, practiced my music in the evenings, welcomed an invitation to a quiet tea-party as offering a little variety, and did my best to make my old maidenhood as happy as possible.

On one particular morning I was not feeling happy; I felt indeed as if I had no buoyancy, no remains of youthful spirit left in me—not because of any mishap to a priceless piece of porcelain, nor because my taste was becoming less fresh or my style developing into mannerism—nothing of the kind had happened. On the contrary, I had that very morning received a note from the head of the firm saying that the important order had been received from the Duke of Largeland, and to no one would they so willingly intrust it as to me, if I would accept it. Accept it! Of course I did, and was in the highest spirits over it. I sent the once small, now considerably grown-up domestic with my answer; and just as she returned home the postman gave her the letter which was to work me woe and to turn my hour of rejoicing into one of reaping and bitterness of soul.

The letter was from my niece Minnie, and enclosed her photograph. I heard from my sister regularly enough still, and I also heard occasionally from her daughter Minnie, who had been in England nearly three years, in order to be "finished" at a fashionable school; but I had never seen the child, nor even her photograph. Each time she had had holidays I had asked her, as in duty bound, to spend them with me in Snailchester, but she had always refused. Her refusal, I must say, was invariably worded very prettily, telling me in the most affectionate terms how she longed to spend a quiet week or two with "dear, dear auntie," unfortunately however she had just accepted an invitation to go with the Lightfoots to Paris or consented to have a tour with Lady Brightsea in her son's yacht. Something unfortunately in the three dashes under it—always prevented the visit to "auntie." "Auntie" bore the disappointments with wondrous politeness; with a smile lighting up her face she put each letter with those of the same tenor received before, and for the rest of that day she went about her work with an air of conscious rectitude and of duty well performed.

When I saw the letter in Jane's hand on this particular day, although I marvelled rather at the abnormal length of the envelope, I had no particular feeling regarding it. I saw at once that the writing was Minnie's; I knew it was in answer to my latest invitation, and I wondered idly as I opened the letter what excuse would be offered this time. Alas, there was no excuse—she was coming! And I—oh, what was I to do? The length of the envelope was explained by the photograph—which was what I believe is technically termed a "promenade"—a full-length figure in a most artistic attitude. I looked at it with dismay. This was my niece—this tall, well-formed, beautiful girl with, if the photograph was to be relied on, a style and "go" about her that would set every tongue in Snailchester wagging! If she had only been small and plain, if she had only been one who would have sat and read, chatted, and practiced her music during the day, creeping out with me for a quiet evening walk when the twilight fell, I should not have minded; but Miss Minnie Pomeroy was evidently not one of that sort. The very make of her tight-fitting serge dress, the very turn of her head, with its plain round hair, showed that she was a young lady of some individuality, one whose presence would make itself felt. My niece was eighteen; she might have been twenty-eight! No one would remember that the mother of this tall, stylish, beautiful girl was much older than I, but every one would say, "Oh, that is Miss Minnie Pomeroy, Miss Olive Leicester's niece!"

My case was a hard one, and I ardently longed that something even yet might intervene to postpone Minnie's visit till "a convenient season." My longing was vain; the days passed away without any further letter until the 3rd of July, when a telegram arrived from one of the governesses of Miss Bryce's seminary, telling me that Minnie had started for Snailchester, and would arrive by the train that reached that place at 5:30 P. M.

All hope was over, so I took a final look round the room set apart for Minnie, the preparation of which had occupied some of my waking and many of what should have been my sleeping hours for the past week. My house was plain, and she was not, and my means were small; but my taste was artistic, so I had made the room as pretty as I could, and I hoped she would not despise it. There was a pedestal with white curtains; the room had a window overlooking a pretty upland; cut flowers in pretty glass vases brightened up odd corners; a little book-shelf with a few tempting volumes was placed within easy reach of the bed. Really, so far as I could see, I had done everything I could for Minnie in that part of the house. Then I visited the kitchen and saw that the nice little dinner I had projected—for I was not fashionable enough to welcome a visitor with tea—was in a forward state; and then I put on my things and started for the station—in good time, as I thought.

When I arrived at the station, however, I found that my clock was slow, and that I was only a minute and a half too soon; so I betook myself to the proper platform and walked up and down several times, watching

for the curling wreath of steam which I expected every instant to see in the distance. The minute and a half went by, and so did three minutes; then six, twelve, twenty-eight, forty-eight. I began to grow anxious, and, looking at the porters and guards on the other platforms—there were none on mine, which was quite out of the station—I observed that they too seemed to be very anxious and preoccupied; however, I determined to show no trepidation, and with a very business-like air I went across to one of them and asked when the 5:30 express would be in. Never shall I forget his look, his manner, his voice as he blurted out—
"The 5:30 express, ma'am! Don't you know she has been wrecked beyond Eilstown? A bridge broke down. We have sent off a relief, and are expecting her in every minute now."

I think that was what he said—I think; but I do not know—it was all so awful. Here had I every day for a week been hoping something would occur to prevent Minnie's arrival; I had that very morning, when I received the telegram, said, with a sigh, "Ah, well, nothing can prevent it now!" It was prevented, and oh, how terribly! I sank down upon a barrow which I was standing, and covered my face with my hands, overwhelmed with sorrow, remorse, and anguish. To think of Minnie, that handsome, splendid girl—to think of her crushed to death amid all the horrors of a railway accident, and to think too that I, in my selfishness, not wishing to appear so very much an old maid, had been hoping something might prevent her from coming to Snailchester! I had not wished this however—oh, no, this was too awful!

"Please!" I got up—we went the barrow. The train's a-comin' in."
"Train? What train?"
"The train as was sent to Eilstown when the news of the accident came. It be a-bringin' of them as wasn't injured and them as isn't much."

My spirit too utterly broken, I could not speak even one word in reply. Oh, if I had only wished for Minnie to come, how different I should have felt now! I had no hope for her; I scarcely even dared to wish that she might be among those who were not fatally injured. I rose from the barrow, intending to make my way to the station-master to ask him whether I might make one of the sad party who were going to identify the dead.

I saw the bright lights of the engine flash round a curve; there was a slackening of speed, a rolling and grating noise, and the train had entered the station. Motionless I stood beneath a lamp; then, with a sudden, quick cry, I rushed forward. I saw Minnie step out of a carriage. I knew her at once—the tight-fitting dress, the round hat, the stylish figure, the beautiful face. I had not been punished for my wickedness! "Minnie—oh, my darling, darling Minnie!" To the end of my life I shall remember the words I uttered as I clasped her in my arms.

"Heaven alone knows how I welcome you! Oh, my dear, my dear,"—and tears rolled down my cheeks.
Minnie was weeping too.
"Dear auntie! Oh, wasn't it awful!" she whispered, as with a struggle she regained her composure. "I hardly dare think of it yet. Some day perhaps I may be able to speak freely of it, but not yet. Oh, you don't know how nearly all I was over with me! But for this gentleman—Mr. Dene—nothing could have saved me."
I turned at her words to meet the quiet earnest gaze of a pair of dark-gray eyes, while Minnie went on feverishly—

"The carriage I was in—there was no one in it but myself—was overhanging the terrible chasm in the bridge; every moment it seemed as if it must go down; and I was in a state of mind too awful to think of, when he came and told me to follow him. I did so but how I know not; I only know that he supported me along the narrow parapet of the bridge. I know it was at the risk of his own life, for I was half dead with terror; and scarcely were we on the embankment again when, with a horrible crash that I shall never forget, my carriage too fell upon the mass of debris below. Oh, auntie, what I felt!"

She ceased with a convulsive shudder, while I, almost speechless, turned to the stranger, to whom I owed a deeper debt of gratitude than he could ever know, and tried in broken accents to put some of my thoughts into words.

"Indeed your niece estimates my services greatly beyond their value," he said, interrupting me, and the smile that lighted up his face enhanced the pleasure of listening to his musical voice. "She is a brave girl. Had she for her moment lost her presence of mind or her wonderful calmness, then indeed nothing could have saved either her or me on that perilous ledge; but she is very much a heroine."

"And you are every inch a hero," I said to myself, as, without knowing why, I began to search my memory to discover where I had heard his name before. Then suddenly I remembered that Dene was the name of the gentleman who had bought Fendale—a lovely little freehold property about a mile out of Snailchester which had been my earliest years been my ideal of an earthly paradise. I had heard that the purchaser had "retired," and had therefore thought of him as some very elderly person with a certain air of self-importance and an overwhelming consciousness of wealth which made me take another look at the man who was so happy as to call Fendale his own.

He was not a very elderly person—he could not be more than forty-two; he was not self-important—he had no purple-rimmed air. He had a grave kind face, handsome in its kindly and winning expression rather than in feature; intellect shone in the clear dark-gray eyes—but not intellect only; goodness also had its home there. Involuntarily the words of Solomon, "One man among a thousand have I found," rose in my mind; and, even as they did so, I was recalled to myself by hearing him ask if he might call the next day and ask after Minnie—a request which, it is perhaps needless to say, I willingly granted.

He came the next day, but Minnie was not able to see him—nor the next, nor the next. The poor girl's nerves had received a shock from which they could not easily recover. But soon the strength of her constitution reasserted itself, and she became her own bright self once more—how bright, how strong, how beautiful! She was a

constant source of admiration to me, who had never seen any one like her, so full she was of health, energy, life and gaiety. Why, my quiet little house seemed transformed as she ran singing up and down the stairs, making the place seem full of sunshine! And how willing she was to go for long walks, to hunt up pretty flowers or anything uncommon for me to copy for my painting, in which she took the deepest interest!

I had not been mistaken in my anticipations as to the behavior of Snailchester. Everybody did speak about Minnie; but, strangely enough, my feeling was, "I dare say they are all jealous because they haven't a niece like mine."
Mr. Dene was a constant visitor; scarcely a day passed without our seeing him. And I did not wonder at it. Who could have resisted Minnie? He often came when she was out, and would sit and talk to me while I painted; he often read to me too, and we had long enjoyable discussions on what he had read until Minnie's return; and then, as was natural, she absorbed all his attention. I saw it all, looking on with strangely mingled feelings. He loved Minnie—I felt sure of that; and I thought that if ever girl was to be envied, she was that girl. I was of course an old maid, and had no business with feelings such as these. I do not say I felt the fire, fury, and passion of the earlier years of my life, but I felt as if all life's brightness centered in Mr. Dene's visits; my first thought every morning was, "Will he come to-day?"—my last thought every evening, "Will he come to-morrow?"

Thus the weeks rolled away till seven were numbered with the past. The great order of the Duke of Largeland was approaching completion; so was Minnie's visit—both of which the same day had heralded: We were expecting the arrival of the Indian mail, and Minnie had gone down to the town, for she was too impatient to wait for the postman—which rather surprised me, for I had never seen her so anxious about the post before.

I sat painting, thinking rather sadly over things in general. Soon Minnie would be away, and in all likelihood I should never see her again. In another year she would be going to India, though once I had hoped she might be settled near me; but Mr. Dene had not spoken, as I expected he would, and lately he had not been such a frequent visitor at the cottage. I knew Minnie had not refused him, because when I endeavored to ascertain the state of her affections towards him, she had put me off with a laugh and said that she would not tell me until he had disclosed his feelings towards her. I had noticed however that for the past few days she had seemed restless and anxious, and judging her heart by my own, I longed for him to come and declare his mind.

I was thinking about it even more than usual one fair September forenoon, as I sat by the open window of my painting-room, trying to concentrate my thoughts on an exquisite Marchal Niel rose in a glass before me, which I was copying upon one of the last pieces in the Duke's desert-service but I fear, in spite of all my efforts, those thoughts were too often straying up the garden to where in the distance I could see the trees of the garden where that rose had first opened its beauty to the sun—the garden of Fendale. Mr. Dene had brought it the evening before, and after giving it to me with one of his sweet smiles, telling me that he had been watching its development with anxiety, as he had chanced to hear me say I wanted a fine one, he had strolled up and down the garden paths together—Minnie was spending the evening with a friend—talking of many things till the twilight fell; and still Minnie had not returned. I noticed that he seemed a little absent at times, as if there was something he wished to say, but yet could not make up his mind to say it. Then when the garden gate opened and Minnie entered, he suddenly bade us both good night and went away.

Somehow I felt as if he would come and tell me what he wanted to say on the previous night—would ask me if he had my permission to pay his addresses to Minnie. Why should he not? Impatiently I asked myself the question, rising to my feet the while and passing my hand over my forehead. There was a mirror opposite, and involuntarily I glanced at the reflection in it—at the I must own it—almost pretty face crowned with its way dark brown hair; and I wished—oh, how I wished that the mirror really spoke the truth as to years, that I was really no older than I looked! Then I told myself that I was very weak and silly, that at my age I ought to be ashamed of myself for such weakness, and resolutely set myself to centre all my thoughts and energies on reproducing the lovely hues of the delicate rose on the Duke of Largeland's porcelain.

For ten or fifteen minutes I painted diligently, then a ring at the front door bell made me stop, with my pulse beating violently. Of course I had known he would come; my instinct had not deceived me. I knew he wanted to speak about Minnie the night before, but could not summon up sufficient courage to do so. Now he had come, so I must nerve myself to play my part, which I did by casting a glance up the garden towards the woods that sheltered Fendale, and thinking how welcome I should always be when Minnie was mistress there.

Thus strengthened, I was able to go through the ordeal well. I welcomed him gracefully, though I say it myself; and, as he seemed interested in the progress that the rose had made towards being immortalized, I chatted about it as if life had no dearer interest for me than the Duke of Largeland's china. Of course this could not last; so by-and-by we sat down—I beside my table, he in the shadow of the window-curtains; and then he said, in an abrupt tone which I had never heard him adopt before—

"Minnie—I mean Miss Pomeroy—is out?"
"Yes," I answered, as calmly as if my heart was not beating so heavily that I feared its pulsations might almost be heard. "This is the day the Indian mail arrives, and she went to meet the postman, who always gives up her letters, although he will give no one else theirs. But he likes Minnie—every one does; I never saw any one so irresistibly charming as she is."
"You are right," he said fervently; and somehow, although I should have been disappointed had it been otherwise, his ready

enthusiastic praise sent a chill to my soul. "She is indeed irresistibly charming, as you say, and she is looking more than usually beautiful to-day. I met her in the town," he added, in answer to my look of inquiry; "I—I had a short walk with her, and—she bade me to tell you the train was late and she might have to wait half an hour or more for her letter."

"Oh, that is a pity!"—a speech without much sense in it; but I felt I must say something, and did not exactly know what words to use.

"I do not count it so," he replied, with a peculiar shy glance—"indeed it was because she told me she would not be returning for some time that I at once resolved to come here and see you. I—there are some matters connected with the winding up of my business affairs which compel my departure for London to-morrow morning, and I cannot—I cannot go until—I until I have my mind set at rest."

He stopped, and to conceal the trembling of my hand, I pretended, by rubbing my brush round and round on my palette, to be brushing the tints together. I lowered my eyelids so that I might not have to endure the trial of looking at him, and thus fortified, I said quietly—

"Yes—until your mind is set at rest, and—"

"You must have noticed," he went on desperately—"You must have noticed how I—how I—"

"Yes," I said—how I said it I do not know, nor shall ever know how I then had the courage to look up and steadily meet his eyes—"I have noticed it."

He glanced at me swiftly, as though he was puzzled, I thought; then he went on—"I am glad you have noticed it, because it makes my task less difficult. Had I only thought so, I would have spoken to you last night, but so much depends on your answer—all my life's happiness—that I—that I—"

But now, Miss Leicester, your words encourage me to hope."
"No, no, Mr. Dene"—how unnatural my voice sounded in my own ears—"I cannot encourage you to hope." His face fell, while I went on desperately, "you see I am peculiarly situated as regards Minnie."

"As regards Minnie?" he interrupted.
"I thought—"

"Her parents are in India," I went on, not heeding his words; "and, before I can communicate with my sister and receive her letter in reply, seven weeks will have to elapse; and I—"

"But—pardon me," he interrupted again—"I don't see why in this case Minnie's parents need be consulted—why?"

"Mr. Dene"—never before had I felt so old, never before had I felt quite thirty-six, but I did then, as I rose from my chair and stood facing him—"Mr. Dene, pardon me if by my notions seem old-fashioned; but never while she is under my care can I consent to allow anyone to pay his addresses to my niece without first consulting her parents."

To this hour I can see the strange bewildered expression of his face, the bright light in his eyes as he fixed them on me.
"Pay his addresses to your niece?" he echoed slowly. "Miss Leicester—Olive!—did you mean to say that?"

"I can hardly tell what followed. I heard him say that as the train steamed into the station on that terrible July night he had seen me under the lamp, and my face had attracted him, but my rapturous greeting of Minnie had given him a strange thrill. He too was coming as a stranger to a strange land—he too had escaped from a fearful danger; but no loving rapturous words had welcomed him—had he perished, no one would have mourned his loss in that way."

"And, my interest thus excited," I heard him go on, as I stood half in dream-land, half on earth, "every day you grew more and more dear to me—every day I learned more and more to esteem the gentle virtues of your character—your cheerfulness, your patient love, your unselfish love for your beautiful niece—until I felt that, unless I could win you for my own, not all that the world had given me could have any value for me. Now I have spoken—now I have told the love of a heart that never really loved before! Tell me, Olive—tell me!"

I did not say it in words—I suppose my eyes spoke for me; while I saw the answering light of love in his. But, before we had time to advance, before I had time to speak, the door opened, and Minnie dashed into the room with an open letter in her hand, and, rushing up to me, threw her arms around my neck.

"Oh, auntie," she cried—"oh, auntie, auntie! Congratulate me! I am the happiest girl in England! They"—waving the letter—"they say I may marry Charles Lightfoot; and I—oh, I am—words cannot tell how happy!"

"Charles Lightfoot?" I repeated, in a dazed, uncertain manner.
"Yes," he asked me just before I came here, but of course I couldn't say 'Yes' till I had asked papa and mamma; and equally of course I could not accept Mrs. Lightfoot's invitation to go with them to the Continent; so I came to you. Don't be angry, auntie! I am so glad I came to you; I have been very happy, and—"

"But you have seldom spoken of the Lightfoots?" I returned, in the same dazed uncertain manner. "If I had thought it was any of your circle of acquaintances, I should certainly have said it was Lord Brightsea, for you have spoken of him over and over again, and—"

My speech was cut short by a clear ringing laugh.
"Lord Brightsea? Lord Brightsea! wanted me to go with them this summer; but he is such a dreadful old drone! Do forgive the language, auntie; remember that the very happiest girl in England cannot be expected to think of 'prunes and pears.'"
"My darling, I am so glad," I returned fervently—"the more so that now you will be settled quite near me, and I will live with me."
"Yes, you must come and live with me altogether—I have quite decided upon that. I think I told you that Charles's estate is all his own; and the house is so large that you can have a big suite of apartments all to yourself, and you can paint there quite as well as here; and, oh, you must say you will come! I could not be happy if I had to think of you here all by yourself, working hard and lonely."

All this had been poured forth with a volubility that knew no pause, her arms clasped tightly around my neck; the while; but now, as she loosened them and took a step backwards to read my answer in my eyes, hers rested upon Mr. Dene, whom up to that moment she had not seen. It was rather embarrassing; but Minnie with a laugh and a bright blush, dissipated the awkwardness at once by saying, as she held out her hand—
"Oh, Mr. Dene, have you been here all the time? What a rattle-brain you must think me! But I am glad now that you are here, for I am sure you will back me up in my scheme. Don't you think it would be the best thing possible? I am sure you do, and I am certain you will persuade auntie to come and live with me."
How brightly he smiled into the eager blue eyes, as taking both her hands in his, he answered her—
"Yes, I do think your scheme a good one," he said; "but I am afraid I cannot help you. The truth is that just before you came in I had managed to persuade auntie to come and live with me—to be my own dear wife!"
For a moment Minnie stood speechless, looking from Mr. Dene to me; then the whole truth seemed to dawn upon her. She threw her arms around me again and clasped me in an embrace that almost strangled me.
"Oh, I am so glad," she cried—"so very, very glad! Sometimes I had hoped—"

But there—I mustn't say that. Oh, I am so happy! A few minutes ago I said I was the happiest girl in England; but now I feel I am the happiest girl in all the whole world!"
"And I am the happiest woman," I whispered softly to myself.

Our marriage—George Dene's and mine—was shortly afterwards celebrated quietly in the church at Snailchester; I was dressed in a gray travelling costume, and had Minnie for my own bridesmaid. Soon after that my husband and I were honored guests at a wedding of a different description—one celebrated with the ringing of bells, with flags and flower-strewn paths—the wedding of Sir John Lightfoot's eldest son with my niece, Miss Minnie Pomeroy. How radiant beautiful she looked in her costly robes of silk and lace! What happiness beamed in her lovely eyes. Yet she is not happier, thought I, than the bride who wore only her travelling-dress at the altar; and with the thought came the earnest wish that her happiness might deepen every day, even as mine had deepened.

Then other thoughts came—thoughts of that July day when Jane had brought me the long envelope, and when I had looked forward to Minnie's visit as the greatest trial that could befall me, whereas it had brought with it my greatest blessing. Well, well, it just proved what short-sighted mortals we are, after all, and that—But here the triumph strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding-March" broke in upon my musings and put my thoughts to flight, as I watched Minnie coming down the aisle, leaning upon her handsome young husband's arm. Dear Minnie—may her life be all sunshine and joy and music! I am sure there are few who better deserve it.

Perils of Practical Joking.
The practical joker makes himself simply a nuisance in society.
One of the most common "smart" tricks is to pull a chair out from a person as he is about to sit down. A practical joker recently tried this on a man in Brooklyn, who fell, cut his hand in falling, and died from loss of blood.
Some years ago a couple of fellows thought it would be funny to frighten a young lady who had never been known to feel fright at anything. One of the men was her brother, and the other was her expected husband and a medical student. They obtained a skeleton, placed it in the young lady's bed in the evening, and then awaited results. It gave her such a fearful fright that she remained transfixed and speechless, glaring wildly on the startling object. Her reason fled on the instant and she remained a maniac. As the story goes the brother committed suicide and the lover was taken to a lunatic asylum, where he will end his days.

Another instance, with a different result, happened in San Francisco.
A young man to frighten two of his lady friends who were alone and at home one evening, dressed up as a ghost and made mysterious noises about the house. The girls took him for a burglar and not a ghost, and ran to a neighbor for help. The latter seized an iron poker and dealt a blow that cracked the ghost's skull, and now the doctors are trying to prevent his becoming a ghost in reality.
This was a pretty severe object lesson, but it should help to teach practical jokers common sense. A sudden fright is a pretty severe tax on the nervous system of any sensitive person; and it will be a step in the right direction when all practical jokes and pranks are as relentlessly punished as pickpockets or burglars.—Burlington Free Press.

She Put Him to the Test.
An amusing story comes from one of the clubs here, a club which adorns the sacred slopes of Beacon Hill. Mr. A., a scion of an old house, has noble pretensions, but limited finances, and has his eyes fixed longingly upon the coffers of a maiden aunt who has a good deal of money and far more brains than some of the younger members of his family. The youth had gambled heavily, and at last got himself into a state of financial chaos, where he had nothing left but absolute repudiation of his "debts of honor" or suicide, unless his aunt would play the role of fairy godmother, as she had done before. In desperation he applied to her, of course without specifying the nature of the transactions which had left him so heavily involved. The old lady was too shrewd, however, not to know.

"Been gambling, eh?" she said. "Well, I've paid your gambling debts before, and can again, I suppose, but this time I'll make a condition."
With some trepidation the nephew inquired what the condition was.

"You need a wife to keep you straight," his aunt answered, with a wicked gleam in her eyes. "Now, you've had every opportunity to choose a good wife, and you haven't done it. Now, none of the girls in our set would take you for a gift, even with my money thrown in. So I've selected a wife for you. She's good and pious and

healthy—sure to outlive you—and not bad looking. She's old enough to take care of you and herself too, and if you'll marry her I'll do something handsome for you!"
"Who is she?" the young man demanded.

"She's my nurse just at present, but I can get another if you can't spare her."
"Oh, I can spare her perfectly well, auntie, and I never could think of taking her away from you."

The end of all the talk was that the young man did actually agree to marry a woman who was said to be forty and his aunt's hired nurse, if his debts could be paid and he guaranteed an income of \$5,000 annually. And what he got up to it was that his aunt invited a cousin, his rival in the race for the old lady's fortune, to dinner and told him the story, adding that she had simply made the proposal as a test, and that she should refuse to receive at her home a man who would marry a servant for money. The tale is still unsettled so far as the gambling debts go, but it can hardly be held that it presents the aunt in an amiable light.

The Roman Catacombs.
As reported in the Architect, London, a lecture was delivered lately in Liverpool, by Professor Stokes, of Dublin, on "The Catacombs and Catacombs of Rome." The professor said that his own idea before he studied the subject was that the city of Rome was built over tombs, that the catacombs had furnished the building material for the city, and that the old lady's fortune, to dinner and told him the story, adding that she had simply made the proposal as a test, and that she should refuse to receive at her home a man who would marry a servant for money. The tale is still unsettled so far as the gambling debts go, but it can hardly be held that it presents the aunt in an amiable light.

The edict of Diocletian ordered the destruction of the churches and the confiscation of lands attached to them, while there were other evidences of the existence of churches at the end of the third century. The whole extent of the catacombs was known not as yet, and most probably there were numerous catacombs still to be discovered. Competent authorities estimated the whole length of the catacombs as reaching 350 miles. This might seem an enormous length, but they must remember that the catacombs were excavated on different levels so that four and even five galleries ran one above the other—in fact, the whole soil of thirty or forty miles around Rome was honey-combed with them. These galleries were narrow and ranged from two to four feet in width, and were from eight to ten feet in height.

The lecturer next described the pagan burial clubs, and said the early church was built in the form of a catacomb, which took the name, shape and constitution of a pagan burial club. It was under the cover of these pagan burial clubs that Christianity seems to have taken refuge and shelter for the first 300 years of its existence, and through the toleration afforded to those burial clubs the Christian church was enabled to execute the vast operations involved in the catacombs. They had the testimony of Tertullian that towards the end of the second century Septimius Severus owed a great deal to Christian neutrality in the great civil war which raged at that time. The Christians had grown so numerous that it was almost as important for them to gain their neutrality as it was to gain their active co-operation.

Lincoln's Last Laugh.
On the night of April 14, 1865, Mr. Lincoln, accompanied by his wife, Miss Harris, and Major Rathbone, of Albany, N. Y., was occupying a box at Ford's Theater, in the city of Washington. The play was "Our American Cousin," with Sothern in the principal role. Mr. Lincoln was enjoying it greatly. Lee had surrendered on the 9th; on the 13th the war was everywhere regarded as ended, and upon that day Secretary Stanton had telegraphed to General Dix, Governor of New York, requesting him to stop the draft.

Sothern, as Lord Dundreary, was at his best. Lincoln was delighted. The lines which care and responsibility had so deeply graven on his brow were now scarcely visible. Before leaving for the theater he had pronounced it the happiest day of his life. He looked, indeed, as if he now fully realized the consummation of the long cherished and fondest aspiration of his heart. He was at length the undisputed chief magistrate of a confederation of States, constituting the freest and most powerful commonwealth of modern times.

At some period of the performance Sother

Exactness and Carefulness

should have the means of weighing the goods he sells it, and also what he buys. Economy there is nothing that will pay for itself.

The high price of scales prevents hiding themselves with them, and the mercy of every dishonest party is within. One of the very best now on the market are those made by the Chicago Scale Co., and for the one who read the FARMER we have arranged to supply orders sent to that company.

Great reduction. The prices are so great that a load of wheat, pork, or butter, will pay the entire price before land and judge for yourself.

Scale.

round to 900 pounds. Size of platform.

and MICHIGAN FARMER one year
\$0 extra; or \$20.
Scale.



Illustration of a platform scale with a person standing on it. The scale has a large platform and a vertical column with a weighing mechanism. The person is standing on the platform, and the scale is shown from a side-on perspective.

pound to 6,000 pounds (8 tons)
by 13 feet.

MICHIGAN FARMER one year;
\$0 extra. Scale.




Illustration of a large platform scale with a person standing next to it. The scale is very large, with a wide platform and a tall vertical column. The person is standing next to the platform, providing a sense of scale. The scale is shown from a side-on perspective.

pounds to 10,000 pounds (8 tons);
by 14 feet.

and MICHIGAN FARMER one year.
No the number of scale you select,
it includes the beam, box, and filling
up; either of these scales can
grain, coal, stock and merchan

and delivered at the depot extra charge. Every scale will be so guaranteed by us and the prices are the lowest we can get the usual prices for the same article as above prices of course be sent to us, and the sender must refer to the FANNERS.

here to

BROTHERS,

DETROIT, MICH

ST. LOUIS & PACIFIC

The station foot of Twelfth St. on Erie Line to Chicago, and the West.

	Chicago Limited.....
Leave	11:30 p.m.
Arrive	3:45 a.m.
Chicago Express.....	
Leave	* 9:30 a.m.
Arrive	* 6:15 a.m.
St. Louis and Western Express.....	
Leave	11:30 p.m.
Arrive Sunday. *Except Monday	

CAN CENTRAL

"**Gara Falls Route.**"

Third street. Ticket office, corner of Jefferson avenue, and depot. All trains arrive Central Standard time.

LEAVE	GOING WEST.	ARRIVE.	FROM WEST
W.D.	\$1.30 p.m.		\$10.45 a.m.
A.M.	*7:08 a.m.		*4:00 p.m.
A.M.	*7:08 a.m.		*4:00 p.m.
A.M.	*4:00 p.m.		*11:00 a.m.
A.M.	\$3.00 p.m.		\$7.00 a.m.
A.M.	*10:15 p.m.		*7:00 a.m.

RAND RAPIDS TRAILER.

W.D.

W.D.

... .. \$6.00 a m

WARD BAY CITY TRAINS.

... .. \$5.50 a m

... .. \$5.40 p m

... .. \$11.00 a m

... .. \$11.10 p m

... .. \$1.15 p m

... .. \$2.25 p m

COLDS TRAINS.

... .. \$3.35 a m

... .. \$2.45 p m

... .. \$1.45 a m

... .. \$4.40 p m

... .. \$7.30 p m

... .. \$9.35 p m

... .. \$10.50 p m

Grand Rapids

o Leave. Arrive

going east. from east.

... .. \$6.00 a m

... .. \$5.00 p m

... .. \$6.10 a m

... .. \$5.30 p m

... .. \$7.15 p m

... .. \$8.05 p m

... .. \$10.55 p m

... .. \$1.00 p m

... .. except Sunday

... .. except Saturday.

REN.

Gen. P. & T. Agt.

Detroit. Chicago, Ill.

& Mich. Southern R.R.

on Central Standard Time

Chicago, Chicago Depart. Arrive

Express... 7:30 a m 6:40 p m

and Buffalo

Express... 6:10 p m 10:15 a m

and Chicago

Express... 8:15 p m 6:35 p m

trains will arrive, and the 8:15 p m

from the Third street station

will arrive and depart at the

station. The 8:15 p m train leaves

Detroit daily except Sunday.

office No. 56 Woodward Ave.

Kerrill block.

and Hagen & Milwaukee.

Brush Street. Trains run by Cen-

tral. In effect May 1, 1888.

..... 10:30 a m 4:50 p m
 road..... 4:30 p m 4:45 p m
 sleep? 8:30 p m 4:50 a m
 sleeper 10:55 p m 11:40 p m
 Days excepted: 1. Days
 a Detroit at 3:50 a m, 4:30 and
 at Durant with trains on Chi-
 cago & N. Y. for the east and west,
 car to Grand Haven.
 has Pullman sleeper and Buf-
 falo to Chicago daily.
 has sleeper to Grand Rapids
 Bertha can be secured at G. T. R
 corner Woodward and Jefferson
 Depot for the night of French Street.
 N. J. PIERCE.
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they are **HONESTLY MADE** from the **PUREST AND BEST**
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ACME WHITE LEAD & COLOR WORKS,
DETROIT,
Manufacturers of Everything in the Paint Line.

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ONE DAY ONLY.
 At Michigan Ave. and 10th St.,
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